

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT

T.S. Forest Conservation Act – Diversion of 73.0074 ha forest land falling under various Districts/Forest divisions for laying of Underground Natural Gas Pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) for Mallavaram-Bhopal-Bhilwara-Vijaipur Pipeline Project in favour of M/s GSPL India Transco Limited, Gujarat. – Final (stage-II) approval – Accorded - Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 45

Dated: 30-08-2019
Read the following:-

1. From PCCF (HoFF) (FAC), T.S, Hyd., Lr.Rc.No.4320/2013/FCA-1, Dated:28.10.2016.
2. Govt. Letter No.4759/FOR.I (1)/2016, EFS&T (For.I) Dept. Dt.26.11.2016.
3. From Govt. of India, MoEF&CC, Chennai Lr.No.F.N.4-TSA044/2016-CHN/0228, Dt.10.02.2017.
4. From PCCF (HoFF), T.S., Hyd., Lr.Rc.No.4320/2013/FCA-1, Dated:10.10.2018.
5. Govt. Letter No.4759/FOR.I (1)/2016, EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dated.22.11.2019.
6. From Govt. of India, MoEF&CC, Chennai, Lr.No.F.No.4-TSA044/2016-CHN/2011, Dt:20.12.2018.

O R D E R

In his letter 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad has furnished a proposal for diversion of 73.0074 ha forest land falling under various Districts/Forest divisions for laying of Underground Natural Gas Pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) for Mallavaram-Bhopal-Bhilwara-Vijaipur Pipeline Project in favour of M/s GSPL India Transco Limited, Gujarat.

2. In their letter 3rd read above, the Ministry of Environment & Forests Government of India, Chennai have granted in-principle (Stage-I) approval for the proposal forwarded vide letter 2nd read above, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated thereof.

3. In the letter 5th read above, Government of Telangana have sent the report of compliance on the conditions stipulated by Government of India, as submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad in his letter 4th read above, to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Chennai for according necessary approval.

4. In their letter 6th read above, the Central Government have granted final approval for the proposal in para 1 above, under Section 2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated therein.

5. Accordingly, Government hereby accord **final (Stage-II)** approval for diversion of 73.0074 ha forest land falling under various Districts/Forest divisions for laying of Underground Natural Gas Pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) for Mallavaram-Bhopal-Bhilwara-Vijaipur Pipeline Project in favour of M/s GSPL India Transco Limited, Gujarat, under section-2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

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- ii. State Forest Department shall demarcate the proposed forest by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters from the amount which has already realized from the User Agency;
- iii. The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over 86.352 ha (213.375 acres) non-forest land identified in Narayankhed Range of Medak Division from the amount already realized from the user Agency;
- iv. Identified CA land and approved CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- v. Non-forest land which is transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act. The Nodal Officer must report compliance within a period of 6 months from the date of grant of final approved and send a copy of the original notification to this office for information and record;
- vi. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency;
- vii. Trees standing in the diverted area shall be felled strictly as per requirement with prior permission of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned;
- viii. The muck generated in the earth cutting if any, will be disposed off at designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be disposed off in the forest areas;
- ix. The State Forest Department shall carry out the special mitigation measures as prepared by the DFO, Khammam to safe guard the Bison Corridor from the amount already realized from the User Agency;
- x. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
- xi. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- xii. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work and pilgrims visiting the temple do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- xiii. The State Forest Department shall carry out mitigation measures for areas passing through corridors existing around Kawal Tiger Reserve etc in consultation with the Chief Wildlife Warden and NTCA from the amount which has been already realized from the User Agency;

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- xiv. The User Agency shall erect visible, big signage board all along the route of the gas pipe line at the project cost;
 - xv. The User Agency shall carry out regular monitoring of the gas pipeline to be laid and submit a monthly monitoring report to the concerned DFOs for record and information.
 - xvi. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 73.0074 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal.
 - xvii. User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
 - xviii. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Additional PCCF(Central) of Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User Agency.
 - xix. The Progress of the Compensatory Afforestation as mentioned by the DFOs in part-II of the proposals shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office to upload the same in the web portal.
 - xx. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as decided by the Additional PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Chennai.
6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad shall take necessary action, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

RAJESHWAR TIWARI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Deputy Conservator of Forests (C),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),
1st & 2nd floor, HEPC Building, No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034

The Director, Government of India,
Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi 110 003.
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//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER